

THE ACTS CHURCH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2013



TEXT: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:27-31 KJV

Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. (28) And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. (29) Are all apostles? are all

prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? (30) Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? (31) But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

INTRO: WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST

God inhabited the physical body of Jesus... **In Him dwelt all the fullness of the godhead bodily – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit**

John 14:10-11 KJV

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but **the Father that**

dwelleteth in me, he doeth the works. (11) Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

John 14:23 KJV

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him,

and **we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.**

Ephesians 3:17 NKV

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;

I. BONE OF HIS BONE

Ephesians 5:25-30 KJV

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; (26) That he might **sanctify** and **cleanse** it with the washing of water **by the word**, (27) That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and

without blemish. (28) So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. (29) For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: (30) **For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.**

Bone of His bone

At **creation**, God caused a **deep sleep** to fall **upon Adam**, and He **opened his side** and **created Eve to be his wife**. That was done as **a prototype of Christ and His Bride**. Paul understood the prophetic significance of that act – referring to Jesus as the final Adam. **Jesus' death correlates to the deep sleep of Adam. Jesus' side was opened – His life's blood flowed out - making it possible for the Church [His Bride] to be formed.** Adam said, **This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.** Eve was the ideal helpmate for Adam, or as Genesis has it – an help meet for him... Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." (Genesis 2:20-24) In the same way, Jesus Christ foretold that He and His Bride would be one Spirit (1 Corinthians 15:44).

II. FILLED WITH THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST

Ephesians 1:15-23 KJV

Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, (16) Cease not to give

thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; (17) That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father

of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: (18) The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, (19) And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, (20) Which he wrought in Christ, when **he raised**

him from the dead. and **set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.** (21) **Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:** (22) And hath **put all things under his feet,** and gave him to be the **head over all things to the church,** (23) **Which is his body,** the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Ephesians 1:23 AMP Which is His body, the **fullness** of Him Who fills all in all [**for in that body lives the full measure of Him Who makes everything complete, and Who fills everything everywhere with Himself.**].

The object of the last four verses is to describe Christ's glories. These are:

- (1) **His resurrection**
- (2) **His Exaltation to God's Right Hand;**
- (3) **His Supreme Dominion;**
- (4) **His Headship to the Church, his Body, filled with His Fulness.**

These glories all follow His stooping unto the death of the cross. He abased himself that He might be exalted. **"For the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."**

LET THIS MIND BE IN YOU

***Until you are certain of your relationship with Christ
you will never be an effective witness for Him!***

III. GROW UP INTO HIM

Ephesians 4:11-16 KJV

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; (12) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for **the edifying of the body of Christ**: (13) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto **the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ**: (14) That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of

doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; (15) But speaking the truth in love, may **grow up** into him in all things, which is **the head, even Christ**: (16) **From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.**

1 Corinthians 12:27 KJV

Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.